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News Release

DALLAS TEACHER TO BE DEPORTED FOR ATTACKING MENTALLY DISABLED GIRL

DALLAS—A former local teacher from Russia who raped a mentally disabled girl was ordered deported by an immigration judge Thursday for being a criminal alien.

Vladmir Olegovich Brusilov, 48, was ordered removed by Immigration Judge Deitrich H. Sims.

Brusilov was first convicted in Colorado in 1997 for third degree assault and sentenced to two years in prison and 18 months probation. His victim was mentally disabled and believed Brusilov was her boyfriend. When she resisted his sexual advances, Brusilov tied her up and raped her. Because the girl was incapable of being cross-examined during Brusilov's trial, Colorado authorities pleabargained the case to third degree assault.

During his plea bargain, he falsely claimed to be a U.S. citizen. He evaded immigration officers of the now-defunct INS by moving to Texas.

"This is an example of why the INS was abolished and Homeland Security and ICE were established," said ICE Field Office Director Nuria Prendes. "We are committed to restoring integrity to the nation's immigration system, and we are removing this criminal from the country."

Brusilov took employment as a teacher at the University School of Las Colinas here. On his employment application, he falsely claimed to be a lawful permanent resident of the United States. He was likely able to be hired by the school because of his false claims.

According to state prosecutors, Brusilov again targeted a vulnerable girl, this time a 16-year-old student at the school. Brusilov allegedly sexually assaulted her during August and September 2001. Again, because the victim was unable to testify, the case could not be prosecuted.

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However, Dallas County Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Bennett recognized that Brusilov's prior conviction might make him eligible for immediate removal from the United States as an immigration law violator, and she contacted ICE.

During ICE's investigation, it was learned that Brusilov had applied for permanent resident status through the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service. At ICE's request, the Dallas district attorney provided Brusilov's conviction information, which was forwarded to the CIS office processing his application. Brusilov's application was denied. ICE agents arrested Brusilov Nov. 12.

"We immediately arrested him as an immigration violator and placed him in detention because he is a threat to the community," said Prendes. "We presented him before an immigration judge to have his status determined and he was found removable for his crimes. Now he is going to be sent back to Russia for good. Should he attempt to illegally reenter the country, the Department of Homeland Security would stop him and present him for prosecution as a felony reentry after removal, which carries a possible 25 year prison sentence."

"We are especially appreciative of the efforts of the Dallas County assistant district attorney, who recognized that a united law enforcement team could protect the community by doing something about this predator," said Prendes.

This investigation and arrest are part of Operation Predator, a comprehensive Department of Homeland Security initiative to protect young people from human smugglers and traffickers, child pornographers and international child sex tourists. Operation Predator draws on the full spectrum of intelligence, investigative, cyber, and detention and removal functions of ICE to target those who prey on children. Since Operation Predator began in July 2003, ICE has made more than 4,600 arrests nationwide, including 121 in Colorado and 414 in Texas.

Additional information about Operation Predator is available on the Web at www.ice.gov.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.